

SHAKESPEARE for the multitude, rather than for the philologist, the antiquarian or the literary critic is, after all, the normal Shakespeare. The appeal in the poet's own day was directly to the people, to the common sense, to the other sports of a distinctly unscholarly nature. Every device that could impress the imagination was utilized. A constant change of locale brought to attention coasts, woodlands, mountain wilds, landscape gardens, palaces and market places. Fancy was ever on the alert, and the tradition that scenery was not used by no means fully accepted. The word-imagery in the text is on a scale of opulence commensurate with the pictorial suggestion in the plots. It is all an unparalleled array of creative splendor, whose foremost purpose was not the instruction but the entertainment of the crowd.

It is this physical rather than the psychological side of Shakespeare that the Southern-Marlowe productions exploit. The revelations of delicate grace or sublime philosophy in the words are allowed to assert themselves by their own intrinsic force. Their beauty is eternal and cannot be lost, but the mechanism for play presentation requires close watching to prevent a halt in the smoothness of its running. In the delivery of the speeches by both Mr. Southern and Miss Marlowe there is careful emphasis, and there is an elaborate attention to the details of action known to stagecraft as business. Every point that has to do with the plot or the customs of the period is carefully and unmistakably made. To witness one of these performances is like getting the benefit of the foot notes along with the repetition of the text.

The outbursts of passion and the careful tone management that made the reading of lines vocalization rather than articulation, such as have marked great individual successes in the interpretation of Shakespeare, are less compelling than a consistent, well proportioned production, in which details are closely and studiously managed. It is intellectually rather than personality which makes a great popular success of an enterprise such as that upon which these two eminent players are now engaged. Two weeks of Shakespeare in a city of Washington's census rating is a record reflecting credit both on the performances and on public taste. They were two brilliant weeks of spontaneous tribute to the sincere scholarship of Mr. Southern and to the delicate yet forceful charm which distinguishes Miss Marlowe's art as a player.

Explanation of why actors who are supposed to expire at the close of a tragic scene respond to curtain calls immediately. Responding to a curtain call is a player's idea of going to heaven.

It was not Louisiana Lou that came breezing into the New National Theater. It was Chicago Lou; buxom and robustly joyous. Mr. Alexander Carr is one of those interesting figures in the stage world, the musical comedy tragedian. He is a student of the same dialect and the same methods that developed Louis Mann and David Warfield. His work has a subtle seriousness, undercurrent, and is at the same time humorous. He brings an element of repose into the cyclone of fun. He is like Shylock on a holiday, relaxing now and then into the sentimentalism with which the big-hearted, sympathetic west is unwilling to dispense even in its frivolous diversions.

There are two words that exercise potent charm in the popular mind, "girl" and "home." The "girl" from this place or that has been a dashing figure in musical plays too many to be counted. And "Home, Sweet Home," in spite of rivalry in martial songs, comes pretty near being our national anthem, even though the opera in which it was introduced is well nigh forgotten. The Man from Home is the modern example of the appeal which seems to attach to the word, and "The Old Homestead" is a stanch and steadfast witness to the power of the sweetest and simplest idealism to awaken interest, and the power of the varied competition of skirts and symphonies.

PHILANDER JOHNSON.

NATURE COLORS—MOTION PICTURES—"I didn't know anything more about color photography than a rabbit knows about shaving," remarked Charles Urban, the inventor of the kinemacolor picture producer.

"I got in touch with Mr. Turner, who had been a pupil of Sanger Shepherd of color photography fame. He wanted to investigate the possibilities of the three-color process with kinemacolor, and I supplied him with apparatus, film and money for experimental work, but he lied before we discovered it could be made a commercial success."

"I then took it up with a chap named Albert Smith, who liked photographic experiments. Then followed a story of the experiments and the discouragements until success was achieved."

"The kinemacolor camera, as finally worked out, is similar to the one used for black and white work, except that it is built to run at twice the speed—thirty-two instead of sixteen exposures a second. Its essential difference is that it has a rotary color filter placed between the lens and the shutter. This filter consists of an aluminum skeleton wheel, having one segment filled in with green dyed gelatine and the other with red. It is so geared that the exposures are made through the two filters alternately."

"The negative films consist of images in pairs, one being the record of the red and the other of the green in the object photographed. In the kinemacolor projector the two pictures are not superimposed on the screen at the same moment, but the picture is projected first through the red and then through the green filter at the rate of thirty-two pictures a second."

SOUTHERN AND THE DOG.—"It was when we produced 'The Dancing Girl' at the old Lyceum Theater on 4th avenue," said E. L. Southern. "We needed a dog—not to play on, but to appear in it. So I suggested to Dan Frohman, my manager at the time, that he have some one look up an intelligent and gentle beast. But Mr. Frohman seemed to think that as I was the person who would be brought into close contact with the animal it might be wise to select him myself. I picked one out, through an advertisement in a newspaper which led me to a barroom on 6th avenue. A bar-leader owned the dog, which he assured me, with profane adjectives, was a thoroughbred bull. His owner seemed loath to part with him, when I finally intimated that he was to become an actor. I don't know why, but the gentleman didn't fancy actors. However, after I had given him my name, he seemed somewhat, recalling the fact that he had once seen my father play 'Dun-

dreary," and considered it "some show." Then we had several drinks. I didn't want them, and I said so diplomatically, but I reconsidered every time that man handed me a fresh glass and fixed me with his eye. Finally I got the dog. He was produced from the rear yard and looked quite prepossessing. I paid \$200 for him, and led him over to the Lyceum, where he rehearsed very intelligently and amiably for several days. Then he began to see the careless habits and was frequently late for his scenes. This falling caused the first mishap. His cue was given one morning, and he didn't respond, and he came tearing madly. On the dressing room stairs he encountered a member of the company and I think he tried to pass between his legs. Neither the man nor the dog could ever explain intelligently exactly what happened, but the man was in a hospital three months with a broken ankle, and in salary and doctor's bills Mr. Frohman and I paid out nearly \$1,000. That was bad enough, surely, but

this, and, of course, fairies visit in all the dolls' houses where the dolls are agreeable. They will not associate, though, with dolls that are not nice. They never call or leave their cards at a doll's house where the dolls are proud or bad tempered. They are very particular. If you are conceited or ill tempered yourself, you will never know a fairy as long as you live."

ALICE DOVEY
in "THE PINK LADY"

A sarcastic attitude which Mr. Frohman immediately developed toward me, as a judge of dogs, was positively distressing. The season came to an end at last, and then there was fresh trouble. Mr. Frohman was my partner in 'The Dancing Girl,' and therefore owned half the dog. He offered to sell me his half, but I wouldn't buy it, and he wouldn't buy mine. Then we tried to find a purchaser, but it was no use. Finally Mr. Frohman said: "Take him back to the man on 6th avenue and give him a cut rate." I went to the bartender that person informed me that the dog was no earthly good, never had been any good, that he wouldn't accept him even as a gift—and this time he didn't ask me to take a drink. I returned sadly to Mr. Frohman's office. He wasn't in, so I tied the dog to the leg of a table, with a card fastened to his collar on which I had written: "You may have him. Then feeling immensely relieved, I took a drive in the park, returning a couple of hours later to find the dog asleep in my bed, with another card on his collar, marked: 'I don't want him.' The next day I received an invitation for a week end in the country, and I decided to take the dog with me, and leave him behind. This I did, only to get a wire from my solicitor's friend, saying: 'This dog is yours.' I immediately replied: 'Meant to present him to you, and neglected to say so. Keep him. It was just quite true, but I thought my friends might be pleased. Possibly they were, but they wired: "Thank you so much, we return to the apartment in a fortnight, and will have no room for him. Will express him to you." I replied: "Don't express him, he is too valuable. Bring him with you when you return." They would be in the country two weeks longer, and would have peace for that length of time. The two weeks went by, and the dog appeared, utterly unconcerned. That was one of the maddening things about him—he was always unconcerned. The injustice of the whole affair was beginning to get on my nerves. There was Dan Frohman enjoying a holiday in Europe, and here I was walking about the streets of New York, trying to sell a dog for him, or half a dog, at any rate. And I couldn't sell him, I couldn't give him away and he couldn't lose him. At last I decided, desperately to drown the beast, and once again I led him forth. On the street I encountered the dirtiest small boy I had ever met. He admitted the dog, I could see it in his face. So, in a brief, improvised speech I presented him to the animal. Within an hour there appeared at my door the dog, the small boy and a policeman. The policeman had arrested the boy for stealing the dog. I was on the verge of tears, but I controlled my feelings and proceeded to explain the dog meanwhile going to sleep on the pavement, utterly unconcerned, as usual. The explanation over, the policeman asked the small boy: "What do you want with the dog?" The small boy disappeared tearfully while the guardian of the law said to me: "He looks like good stuff. I'll annex him." Then I felt that I would see that dog again—and I never did.

SAYS "QUEEN CROSSPATCH."—"Racketty-Packetty House," by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of "Little Lord Fauntleroy," is the play selected to open the Children's Theater on the roof of the Century the afternoon of Monday, December 23. In the foreword to the little play Queen Crosspatch, the teller of the tale, says:

"Now, this is the story about the doll family that I liked and the doll family I didn't. When you read it you are to remember something I am going to tell you. This is it: If you think dolls never do anything you don't see them. They are very much mistaken. Who people are not looking at them when people turn their backs and they can do anything they choose. They can dance and sing and play on the piano and have all sorts of fun. But they can only more about and talk when people turn their backs and are not looking. If any one looks they just stop. Fairies know

purely and simply a comedy of home life, without any problem or other purpose than the faithful reproduction of characters and incidents in a small community. William A. Brady, who has brought the play and company to this country, ascribes "The Drone" as a comedy that might be produced in any setting by simply changing the accent of its personages. It happened to have its locale in Ireland simply because its author is an Irishman. "If Rutherford Mayne were a Yankee he probably would have cast the scene in New England. It does not mean anything national, but is characteristic of country life in the world."

Daniel Murray, the central figure, is a man of middle life, who has managed to escape the usual fate of the man of his age. He is a well-to-do farmer, to keep him going, on the pretense that he is working out the details of a plan to make the family rich and famous. Of course, he merely loaf, but he is such a kind, good-humored soul that the whole household aids him in keeping up his amiable deception. An ancient and acid-faced spinster living on an adjoining farm entraps the elder Murray into a promise of marriage, which he immediately regrets and he is on the verge of being sued for heavy damages with the reasonable certainty of losing the case, when Daniel (the drone) comes to the rescue by inducing the plaintiff to take over his incomplete contraption and giving a receipt in full. A pretty love story concerning Dan Murray's niece and a young farmer provides the sentimental feature of Mr. Mayne's play.

In the main role is Whitford Kane, who is regarded as the leading character actor of Great Britain. He has gained distinction not alone as Daniel Murray, but in the principal part in Galworthy's "The Pigeon," and various other comedies and dramas. In the assemblage of Irish actors and actresses giving their assistance to Mr. Kane are Margaret Moffat, Margaret O'Gorman, Nellie Wheeler, Alice F.

Thompson, Robert Forsyth, Joseph Campbell, Stanley Gresley and John Campbell, all of whom have been playing in "The Drone" from the time it first was launched. The entire three acts of the rural comedy take place in the kitchen of John Murray's farmhouse in the County Down, Ireland.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Columbia.

"Blackbirds," the new comedy by Harry James Smith, in which Laura Hope Crews and H. B. Warner are starring jointly, comes to the Columbia tomorrow night for a week's engagement. The play is presented by Henry Miller, who gives it a scenic production, which he announces as the finest he has ever made.

"Blackbirds" is a romantic comedy in modern settings. It is as smart as "Mrs. Bumpstead-Lelagh," which was written by the same author and produced by Mrs. Fiske two years ago. The new comedy is written in the same brilliant style as the earlier success, and tells a more dramatic story. It offers two roles of equal importance, which fit the personalities and acting methods of Miss Crews and Mr. Warner.

The co-stars of "Blackbirds" are well known and popular in this city. Miss Crews has played here in the leading comedy roles of "The Great Divide" and "Her Husband's Wife." She also scored a series of personal successes here as Henry Miller's leading woman in "Joseph Entangled" and "The Haves," as leading woman for Robert Edeson in "Ransom's Folly" and as Miss Skinner's leading woman in "His Grace de Grammont."

Mr. Warner achieved great success here last year as the star of "Alas Jimmy Valentine." Prior to that he appeared as a co-star with Wilton Lackaye in "The Battle." His first Washington appearance

to the smallest detail is declared the same save that the costumes were newly imported from Paris for this tour, and thus show the latest modes.

In the company are the New York and London favorites, Frank and Hazel Dawn, Alice Dovey, Alice Hegeman, Jack Henderson, Craufurd Kent, Jed Frouly, Louise Kelley, Frances Gordon, William Clifton, Eddie Morris, Flora Crosbie, Maurice Hegeman, Mae Carmen, Marie Benedict, May Hennessy, Henry M. Johnson, Violin, Joseph Caray, A. S. Humerson and W. Jackson Sadler.

It is many years since a musical play had such success as "The Pink Lady." For the better part of two seasons it has drawn crowded houses in New York and London.

The scenes of the play are laid at Le Joli Coucou, a restaurant in the forest of Compiègne, France; in an antique shop in the Rue St. Honoré and in the Latin quarter in a beautiful ballroom at the Café des Satyres. The story deals with the troubles of a dignified old dealer in antiques, who, despite himself, becomes involved in the effort of a gay young Parisian bachelor to free himself from a former innamorata, the lady in pink, Claudine.

Owing to the exceptionally long performance, it will be necessary for the evening curtain to rise promptly at 8 o'clock, and the matinees will begin promptly at 2 o'clock.

Chase's.

"Boy Scout week" will be the red-letter period at Chase's for the next six days. The theater and its attractions have been dedicated to the patriotic cause served by the Boy Scouts, and all profit above actual running expenses will go to their treasury to make up for an unavoidable

deficit in the funds for the maintenance of the organization.

In the bill will be "Bud" Fisher, the creator of "Mutt and Jeff," whose adventures form one of the funniest series of imaginary happenings ever drawn.

The Boy Scouts will be a leading feature. Their exhibition will show them on the "hike," setting up camp, making "rag salute," preparing supper, making dress without matches, frying flapjacks, boiling water on a sheet of paper, making soup, and, finally, lowering the colors.

Third in featured importance will be the popular comic and grand opera singers, J. K. Murray, Clara Lane and company, in their spirited singing comedy, "Fixing Dad."

Other features will be Emily Darrell and Charles Conway, the musical comedy favorites, in an amusing little skit, "Behind the Scenes"; the French musical

mother, that they named her "The White Squaw," and it was from this that Miss Clarke gained her title for the play.

The story of "The White Squaw" deals with two sisters, one as a baby tragically thrown into the hands of Indians to be reared by them in the belief that she was a child, while the other grows up amid bright and refined surroundings. It is a love story, unknown to each other, come face to face that the story, a true one, starts through the channels and veins of romance, laughter and heart interest to a happy conclusion.

Academy.

The romantic American drama, "The White Squaw," will be presented at the Academy this week, with the usual matinees.

The play is from the pen of the young American actress-author, Delia M. Clarke, who made her stage debut under Augustin Daly, and was later prominently identified with numerous Charles Frohman companies.

It has its scenes in the forests of Michigan about a century ago, a period when America was really in the making. Among the earlier settlers who braved the dangers and endured the hardships of that period were Miss Clarke's grandparents. They gained the confidence and love of the Redskins, whose mistreatment at the hands of the white man had aroused in them hatred and resentment. So great was their devotion to Miss Clarke's grand-

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Polis.

For the second week of higher class vaudeville, Manager Thatcher announces as his headline attraction Porter J. White,

the first kinemacolor motion pictures, in natural colors will be "The Mohitnation of the Greek Troops for the Front," composed of a number of stirring scenes, supplemented by films showing Paris, London and New York fashions. The pipe organ recitals will continue at 1230, 730 and intermissions.

The management of the Lyceum Theater promises for this week an altogether different theatrical entertainment from anything heretofore seen in this city in Sim Williams' "Girls From Joyland."

Harry L. Cooper, the Dutch comedian, known as the "Original Happy Heine," is the star of the organization and is responsible for the first part and burlesque.

The repetition of "Panama," with its inspiring story of the triumph of American engineers, where others had failed, is given for the benefit of a great number of people who were unable to obtain seats when it was given in the course series. It is a close tonight at the Columbia Theater with "Burma and Ceylon" as his subject.

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